

**EJ and Air Workshop, September 6-7, 2007
Project Information and Summary**

**Bill Jarocki
Environmental Finance Center**

1. Please provide a brief Description of your project / activity.

Boise State University is the site of the **Environmental Finance Center (EFC)** for USEPA Region 10. Nine universities in the United States have been designated EFCs by the Environmental Protection Agency to help states and regulated entities manage environmental mandates required by federal law. The other eight EFCs are located at the University of Maryland, New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, Syracuse University, Cleveland State University, Dominican College (CA), University of Louisville, University of Southern Maine, & University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Visit www.epa.gov/efinpage/ for more information on the EFC Network and each of its regional centers.

The mission of the Environmental Finance Center at Boise State is to provide help to those facing the "how to pay" challenges of environmental protection. EFC-10 strives to keep abreast of the latest environmental finance information and tools. It is committed to helping the regulated community build and improve the technical, managerial, and financial capabilities needed to comply with federal and state environmental protection laws. This EFC serves the Pacific Northwest and Intermountain States of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Alaska. The network of EFCs serves the United States.

2. Why is it important for communities to know about this project / activity?

As part of our continuing mission to provide help to those facing the "how to pay" challenges of environmental protection, the Environmental Finance Center at Boise State University provides the financial analysis services and tools. These include:

- Strategic Planning and Implementation
- Utility Rate Design
- System Development and Financial Impact Models
- Asset Management
- Capital Financing
- Funding Databases
- Grant Writing
- Decision Making Tools

3. What have been the successes and challenges associated with this project / activity?

The ECF at Boise State has been active in:

- Developing and delivering educational programs including workshops, conferences, training seminars and formal education programs to expand the capacity and ability of public and private sector leaders and managers to address and resolve environmental finance dilemmas.

- Preparing and disseminating practical guides, handbooks and reports on management and financial issues related to the public sector and environmental methods, including reports, handbooks, and guides, e.g., the Guidebook of Financial Tools.
- Assisting local and tribal governments and other public sector entities to increase their use of alternative and innovative approaches to environmental financing, particularly those that provide alternatives to traditional taxation methods.
- Providing training, education, facilitation, and policy initiatives to improve the ability of regional, state and local officials to meet the challenges of the capacity development requirements relative to the statutory requirements.
- Assisting state and federal agencies with policy and operational finance issues relative to the discovery of least-cost solutions to pollution reduction.

4. Where can communities go for more information about this project/activity? (web and/or contact information)

More detailed information about EFC can be obtained at the following Internet websites:

<http://efc.boisestate.edu/efc/WhoWeAre/tabid/55/Default.aspx>

www.epa.gov/efinpage/

The e-mail contacts are <http://efc.boisestate.edu/efc/ContactUs/tabid/56/Default.aspx>

bjarock@boisestate.edu

efin@epa.gov